

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

December 2 & 3, 2004

Tyee Convention Center
Tumwater, Washington

Day 1

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Ruckelshaus, Chair	Seattle
Larry Cassidy	Vancouver
Steve Tharinger	Clallam County
Brenda McMurray	Yakima
Jim Peters	Olympia
Mark Clark	Director, Conservation Commission
Dick Wallace	Designee, Department of Ecology
Tim Smith	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Craig Partridge	Designee, Department of Natural Resources

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Bill Ruckelshaus opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Ruckelshaus reviewed the agenda.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Larry Cassidy **MOVED** to approve the October meeting minutes. Brenda McMurray **SECONDED** the motion. The October minutes were **APPROVED** presented.

CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING AND DIRECTOR UPDATE

Director Johnson provided an update on the Federal 05 congressional budget.

She explained the current status of the budget proposal and different earmarks on the current budget. There should be about \$16 million federal for the next round of grants.

There were a couple changes made to the original notebook spreadsheet; a revised version was been handed out. Director Johnson explained the revised attachment. (See notebook for details.)

She also explained the status of other items and discussed the small grant program. She stated that, due to time constraints, the applications haven't been reviewed yet.

GOVERNOR'S SALMON RECOVERY OFFICE REPORT

Bob Nichols was unable to attend this meeting due to legislative commitments. Director Johnson reported that the State of the Salmon report is at the printer. The Lower Columbia event to present the new Recovery Plan, with the Governor, will be held on December 15.

The Inspector General is doing an audit of the PCSRF money – Washington State isn't getting an audit at this time but Oregon is in the middle of its audit process.

Larry Cassidy reiterated the historic importance of the December 15, event, as the Governor will accept the state's first regional recovery plan, which has been approved by NOAA Fisheries. This is a big deal and the first time where the locals have developed the plan.

LEAG REPORT

Doug Osterman provided the LEAG report. (See notebook tab #4 for details.)

Doug provided a handout of the 2004 Lead Entity Citizen and Technical Committee Membership Lists.

Doug explained the lead entity survey and what some of the findings were.

Brian Walsh added to the survey discussion. Need to get legislators aware of the lead entity process, possibly by field trips.

Chair Ruckelshaus noted how important it is for the lead entities to be connected to the local governments and to make sure the local government is aware of the salmon recovery efforts in their region.

Discussed the need to continue the work since elected officials change so continued education is needed to keep the local governments in the loop.

The next LEAG meeting will be sometime in December.

Doug noted that LEAG would like to work with Susan Zemek to develop public relation success stories for LEAG.

Brian reported that Susan attended the last LEAG meeting and provided some good ideas and tools for the lead entities to use to education people in their areas.

Doug talked about the discussion at the LEAG meeting on the lead entity strategies and how watershed representatives can be strategic.

Talked at the LEAG meeting about the work the GSRO has been doing and how to think about implementation of recovery plans. They will talk more about this issue at the December meeting.

Chair Ruckelshaus appreciated the LEAG report provided to the board and how helpful these notes were for helping the board see what the lead entities are working on. Especially helpful was the discussion on measures.

Steve Tharinger asked about the bullet under Key Program Concepts ("Obtain legislative authority for local governments to collect funds to support plan implementation"). Doug explained this is one of the options that King County is looking into.

2004 GRANT ROUND REPORT PART 1

Jim Fox provided an overview of the 5th Round reviewing past grant cycles and highlighting changes in this grant cycle. (See notebook tab #5 and PowerPoint presentation handout for details.)

Jim also outlined the funding decisions for this meeting including possible funding of a small grants program, multiple lead entity assessments, status and trend monitoring, and regional boards.

Chair Ruckelshaus started the session with comments about his perspective. This day concludes the 5th Round. It is a good time to remind everyone about the reason the SRFB and lead entity process was created. Discussed the ESA and that without the federally recognized concern with fish there would not be a SRFB. He also discussed the history of the state legislature's ESA involvement, the development of the GSRO's *Extinction is Not An Option* report, and state and federal government efforts.

The chair talked about honoring the lead entity project lists and the science behind these lists. Overriding all of this is the need to help the fish recover.

Discussed the Issues Task Force (ITF) and changes made to this grant round due to this Task Force. Talked about the Review Panel and technical advisors, and the help offered to the lead entities to review strategies and projects of concern.

One thing that needs to change in future grant rounds is how strategies coordinate with regional recovery plans and how to transition from strategy to recovery plan. If recovery plans do what they are supposed to do, which is outline steps over the next 10 years for recovery, the lead entity strategies should provide the habitat project lists needed to meet those steps. Next round "fit to strategy" will really mean "fit to recovery plan". Where do we need to put the emphasis in this stage of recovery? These plans should give the board more guidance on where the funds will be best used, and in what order.

The chair also specifically recognized the work of the staff, the first-rate people on the Review Panel and technical advisors, and Steve Tharinger who chaired the ITF and did a terrific job of working through a lot of difficult issues.

Steve Tharinger also recognized the work of the staff in taking the ITF recommendations and developing a process out of them.

Chair Ruckelshaus recognized the work of the Congress on getting funding to the Pacific Northwest for salmon recovery. This funding will be harder and harder to get in the future both through the Congress and the State Legislature since both are facing budget shortfalls. The work of Tim Smith and Rich Innes in Washington DC has helped to get the funding at a higher level than expected - \$90 million.

The chair talked about two recent articles in the newspaper concerning dams and the reduction in designation of critical habitat.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY FUNDING PRESENTATIONS:

Status and Trend Monitoring

Bruce Crawford presented this agenda item with an overview of what the board has done for monitoring so far and what the budget request is for the next year. (See notebook tab #9 and handout for details.)

Bruce discussed the funding need of \$385,000 per year for status and trend monitoring.

Bruce provided an overview of the Governor's Forum on Monitoring meeting, which was held on November 29, providing the board with the recommendations by the Forum and suggested funding request for the SRFB.

Chair Ruckelshaus asked about the Forum's discussion of having a subcommittee to work on the status and trend monitoring commitment and to have a complete package of information for the board to look at in January with recommendations to the board.

Bruce has begun to pull together a group of agency representatives to work on this issue and so the full packet should be ready for the January meeting. The next Forum meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2005.

Brenda McMurray agrees with the strategy to bring a complete request package to the board at the January meeting. She asked if there are some activities already taking place on status and trend monitoring and what part of monitoring is the SRFB's responsibility and what is the state's responsibility.

Steve Tharinger concurs with Brenda's comments and noted the comment letters from the Hood Canal Coordinating Council (HCCC). A lot of areas have data collection happening now and the SRFB doesn't want to be redundant in the efforts.

The chair also wants to know how to make sure the data are compatible with other efforts.

Bruce is aware of a couple areas that are using data standards and suggestions from the monitoring strategy.

Dick Wallace commented on concerns by the HCCC. There are several monitoring efforts that need to be in place along with the intensively monitored watershed (IMW) efforts which gets detailed data in specific watersheds. Status and trend monitoring bridges the gap between the IMWs and local efforts.

Bruce noted that the State of Salmon report will show current status of salmon recovery. If no status and trend monitoring takes place in the next year then the next State of Salmon report will not be able to report on the status of recovery efforts.

Discussed the different monitoring options and how much the different efforts would cost.

Small Grants Program

Krystyna Wolniakowski, Northwest Regional Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Dennis Canty, Evergreen Funding Consultants, provided this agenda item. (See notebook tab #9 for details.)

Krystyna provided an overview of the pilot project funded by the SRFB last year. Twenty-four projects were funded through this pilot project with \$800,000 being provided by NFWF and sponsor's match to the \$300,000 awarded by the SRFB.

Krystyna reported that NFWF will match at least one-to-one any funds provided by the SRFB and lead entities would be key partners along with other groups.

Dennis reviewed the Conservation Commission proposal and sees many complementary efforts between the two. NFWF is favorable to having the Conservation Commission contact the local groups for coordination and with this process Dennis would expect a very high success rate. He would be happy to work with the Conservation Commission and the third applicant (three Upper Columbia Lead Entities) to set up a process that works for everyone.

Krystyna discussed the timing of the funding to the 2004 appropriation. NFWF has reserved a little over \$1 million to be used for expansion of the pilot program. Krystyna will need to obligate the funds by the end of the year to be able to testify before Congress in February. If the partnership does not go forward, NFWF will need to find a way to expend their reserved funds statewide in a short period of time.

Chair Ruckelshaus responded that the board has not had a chance to have a subcommittee review these projects or make a recommendation to the board and asked Krystyna how strong of a signal is needed to assure the NFWF the funds will be expended.

Krystyna reported that she needs to get a commitment from the SRFB by end of the calendar year or no later than the 15th of January.

Brenda McMurray noted that the proposal has \$150,000 per lead entity and asked for an explanation of why a certain amount per lead entity is identified and not a pool of money across the area with funding provided depending on a ranked project list.

Krystyna responded that a set amount of money has two benefits; provides the local committee that reviews the projects a set amount of money to work with and that \$150,000 is a very competitive amount. They could go with a higher amount per lead entity but that would limit the number of entities that could apply for this money.

Dennis responded that they are also trying to keep the administrative costs down and \$150,000 keeps the costs down.

Larry Cassidy stated that this is a great way to leverage the SRFB funding. Although the lead entity area that he lives in covers five basins and \$150,000 to this lead entity may not be the best way. He suggested allotting 75% of the money to lead entity specific areas with 25% of the funding to be statewide competitive.

Steve Tharinger also thinks this is a good way to leverage money but has some concerns with the 50% match requirement. He believes this amount may be a little steep.

Krystyna reported that the process is very flexible and that each project does not have to provide a 50% match but the overall match must be 50% or more for the NFWF funds.

Steve also asked about the administrative costs and if some administrative costs can be used for project administration.

Dennis responded that yes this proposal has a 10% administrative cost for NFWF administration and each project is able to identify administrative costs for the projects.

Brenda asked if this process will be part of the SRFB lead entity grant round or if there will be a separate process.

Dennis has heard from lead entities and some want a separate process and others want it as part of the SRFB process. He anticipates a rolling process over the next year and they will be able to do it either way depending on what the lead entity would prefer.

Krystyna reported that in the Lower Columbia that is how it worked. The projects came in at the same time as their regular process and they funneled them into the small grant process.

Chair Ruckelshaus discussed how this has been a good process and that this is a national program and benefits the salmon recovery efforts.

Steve Tharinger made a **MOTION** to approve the NFWF small grant program project.

Chair Ruckelshaus questioned if the board was able to make that decisions at this time.

Director Johnson responded that it would be better to have some review process for the small grant program applications since that was required in the RFP.

Larry Cassidy is ready to **SECOND** Steve's proposal but has questions on the need for a decision at this meeting or if a clear signal that the board likes the proposal is enough at this meeting and final decision in January after a review process has taken place.

Director Johnson responded that there are two questions for the board: How much money the board will set aside for programmatic activities and which of the three applications should get funded.

Steve agreed to **WITHDRAW** his **MOTION** and get more direction from staff tomorrow.

Mark Clark discussed the Conservation Commission's application and its involvement in administration of small grant programs. He saw this as a way to provide funding for on-the-ground small grant projects of \$10,000 or less. Conservation Districts have the ability to provide this support out in the field. He noted that he could work with Dennis and develop a combined proposal.

Steve Tharinger responded that one of the strengths of having the Conservation Districts involved is the local entity contact.

Britt Dudek, Douglas County, and Mike Kaputa, Chelan County, provided the overview of the Upper Columbia Lead Entities small grant proposal.

This proposal is requesting \$287,500 from the SRFB with a \$250,000 contribution from the region. They would allow administration costs up to 15% and would require a 50% match. This process would mirror the local lead entity process.

Mike Kaputa reported that this proposal has been reviewed by the Upper Columbia staff and board members. They are very interested in the ability to provide a small grants program in their area.

Chair Ruckelshaus asked, if being focused on the Upper Columbia only, if this proposal is eligible?

Director Johnson reported that it is eligible through the RFP and noted that even the NFWF proposal is not statewide. This is another reason to have a review panel look these proposals before making the final funding decision.

The chair agreed there needs to be more work done before making the final funding decision. Larry Cassidy would like to make sure this proposal has been approved by the Upper Columbia Board before funding.

The chair agreed with Director Johnson's suggestion to have the proposals have a panel review and to come back in January for the final board decision.

Regional Board

The Regional Board Issue was postponed until the January meeting.

2004 GRANT ROUND – PART IV

Multiple Lead Entity Assessment Projects

Jim Fox introduced this agenda item. Received eight multiple lead entity assessments: two were deemed ineligible. (See notebook tab #8 for details.)

Jim reviewed all the projects and explained the package of projects falling under the Skagit River System Cooperative proposal (#1).

Jim mentioned that some of the applications have also been submitted as individual lead entity projects. In response to a question from the Board, he indicated that two of the proposals would likely be funded under the scenarios to be discussed by the board; the NOPLS proposal would likely not be funded under those scenarios.

Project #1 of 6 - #04-1893 - Kurt Fresh provided an over view and history of the Multiple Lead Entity Nearshore Assessment project and past work in this area. He discussed the three projects coming through the regular lead entity lists and need to complete this work and how this proposal will act as an umbrella. The groups working on this includes Kurt through

the NOAA Science Center, Eric Beamer with the Upper Skagit Tribe, SHIAAP, and parts of seven lead entities, tribes, and the Surfrider group.

Larry Cassidy asked if they have looked at the Southern Fund RFP for some of these funds and the technical committee working with it? Some of this work may already be happening.

Kurt noted that he saw the RFP but it came out after they put the proposal in to the SRFB. He will check on this proposal.

The board asked for clarification on this project, as to funding of the different parts.

Chair Ruckelshaus is concerned with who is requesting this funding and if the scientific community wants to see this project happen.

Kurt discussed the research plan for Puget Sound and the need to have a way to fill the gaps in data that this project would provide.

Tim Smith reported that this project is consistent with the path of the nearshore project.

Chair Ruckelshaus needs more information to make sure this has been vetted among the scientific community working on the Puget Sound.

Brenda concurs with the chair's comments but if that is what the board wants then it needs to be asked for before asking for proposals. Since we've gotten the proposals before us already then we need to honor that effort.

Project #2 of 6 - #04-1899 – Gary Wood, Surfrider project, explained the proposal. This project endorses the science for the Northwest Straits. He explained what they want and suggested that the board look at the top two projects as a package.

Steve Tharinger asked about the additional money received through the congressional budget and if they would be willing to spend some of these funds on this project.

Gary responded that he can't say now but would assume that the money could be used for funding this project.

Chair Ruckelshaus asked about the possibility of conditioning the projects on NOAA Science Center endorsement of the projects first. He is concerned about funding the project before it has been scientifically vetted.

Gary suggested requiring projects to coordinate through one entity to save administrative costs.

Project #3 of 6 - #04-1899 – Jamie Glasglow, Washington Trout, provided an overview of their proposal. Washington Trout believes both restoring and protecting of habitat is necessary. He explained what water typing is and what it is used for.

Dick Wallace explained that the Forest Practices Board went with more of a habitat-based system rather than a water typing system.

Craig Partridge reported that ground-based typing does provide better data but many groups are moving away from the water typing process.

Jamie discussed water typing and the direction the state is proposing. Information from this project would be used by Thurston County.

Due to time constraints the board put off any decision on this and the rest of the multiple lead entity assessment discussions until the January board meeting.

2004 GRANT ROUND – PART II

Steve Leider introduced this agenda item and introduced the Review Panel members: Jeanette Smith, Will Hall, and Tom Robinson were present at the meeting, missing were Bruce Smith and Karl Dennison. (See notebook tab #6 for details.)

Steve reviewed the Review Panel report and information. Steve explained the ratings and challenges presented under the current definitions.

Chair Ruckelshaus thanked the Review Panel for their hard work on this process and would like to hear from the group on recommended changes for the next grant cycle.

Will Hall: Everyone across the state did an amazing job showing their work. He was very impressed with the amount of information. Every lead entity met the fundamentals of the SRFB's request. The evaluations were based on definitions and were applied consistently across the board for all the lead entities.

Tom Robinson: The Review Panel really did strive to evaluate the strategies fairly across the board. They do have a lot of comments on how to change the process in the future. Pleasantly surprised with the process and learned a lot.

Steve Tharinger asked Jeanette to give a comparison of past cycles to this cycle.

Jeanette Smith: Went into the process not liking the idea of separating the strategies from the projects but ended up liking the process and working with the technical advisors. This process provided a cleaner evaluation for the Review Panel. She will have more comments later. Some concerns about the amount of information and need to evaluate the strategies for quality.

Larry Cassidy noted that the Northwest Power and Conservation Council has a fix-it loop and asked if there was a process like this in the SRFB process.

Jeanette reported that there were two fix-it loops built into this process but had to draw the line at when no more new information could be submitted.

Larry discussed the need to get all the lead entity strategies to "excellent" especially the lead entities in critical areas.

Chair Ruckelshaus noted that if the recovery plans reflect the critical areas then the board should be able to tell where to focus the funding in the future.

Craig Partridge noted that all the Review Panel members expressed confidence on the consistency across the board when evaluating the strategies.

Steve Leider reviewed the process with the spring meetings and the fall meetings. Spring meetings were information sharing only the fall meetings were the evaluating meetings and project lists. These meetings were all done as a group effort.

Craig asked if the Review Panel has had a chance to look at how the staff has displayed the Review Panel's raw data.

Will responded that there were 156 questions being answered by eight individuals and staff's attempt to synthesize the information seemed to be good.

Tom Robinson has looked at the report and has a high level of confidence in what the staff has done with the information. The columns needed to be weighted in some way.

Brenda looks at this process as an extension of the board's work with the lead entities and would like to get feedback from the Review Panel if this was a way to build on the work that has been started in the past.

Jeanette responded that it is not necessarily reflected in a rating but that there is going to be misinterpretation in what the board is asking for with the evaluation criteria.

The Review Panel expressed its thanks to Steve's good work and Tom noted his appreciation of the make-up of the Review Panel. In the future the board needs to continue to get a good mix of specialties on the Panel.

2004 GRANT ROUND – PART III

Steve Leider also provided the board with the technical advisor process. (See notebook tab #7 for details.)

Steve explained that when the process started there were seven technical advisors but ended up with six members. Richard Brocksmith was in attendance the rest of the members were not available to attend the meeting. Members besides Richard include: Steve Toth, Pat Powers, Jeff Dillon, Phil DeCillis, and Gary Kedish.

Steve reviewed the number of projects and the project of concern process.

Richard noted that the technical advisors will provide the board with a report giving their comments for the next cycle. He learned a lot and enjoyed the process.

Brenda McMurray asked about projects of concern and if these projects should have been left on the lists or removed before the funding cycle.

Steve responded that it was up to the individual lead entity what they wanted to do with the projects of concern.

Larry asked about the Yakima and why so many POC's.

Brenda reported that all the lead entities had the opportunity for the technical advisors meet with the lead entity and review the projects. The Yakima lead entity chose not to have the technical advisor review of their projects.

Rollie Geppert explained that the technical advisors worked with the applicants and before the list were submitted if the project was not able to be adjusted to get out of the POC category then the project could be removed, local choice.

2004 GRANT ROUND – PART V

Steve Leider and Jim Fox provided this agenda item. (See notebook tab #10 for details.)

Steve provided a PowerPoint presentation on staff analysis of Review Panel ratings. (See handout for details.)

The board discussed the graphs and groupings and how to use this information in making the funding decisions.

Steve reminded the board to not read any more in to this information than was intended. It is information for the board to use as it sees fit.

Jim Fox noted that the groupings are simply information to help the board in its decision-making process.

Steve Tharinger noted that the board needs to fund the best projects for salmon recovery and will need to look at individual projects.

Craig Partridge found staff's work to be helpful in thinking about the processes, scenario three is the process that ITF suggested. There are a number of break points in scenario three.

The board discussed the different scenarios and how to use these scenarios and still get the best projects with the best strategies.

Laura reviewed the amount of money that is available to the board for funding projects: Started with a total of \$26.5 million, the first increment used \$9.3 million leaving \$17.2 million for projects.

Lead Entity Comments:

Whatcom County

John Thompson, Lead Entity Coordinator, and Gordon Scott, Whatcom Land Trust, provided testimony for Whatcom County. This group has five projects on its list requesting \$1,550,075 in funding. One project of concern on the final list.

John suggested the board figure out what they are going to do with the projects of concern before beginning the funding decisions.

Whatcom County has one disagreement with the report which is the fair rating on fit of strategy. He discussed the list and how the projects fit with their strategy. John also provided more information on each of the projects.

Brenda McMurray asked if he would agree with the statement that they clearly agree that the first project is indeed the highest priority for their list.

John responded that they ordered their list by what is best for fish.

Craig Partridge asked if the top project on their list is at all scalable. John responded that no it's not.

San Juan Conservation District

David Hoopes, San Juan Conservation District Lead Entity Coordinator, provided testimony for San Juan Conservation District. This group has three projects on its list requesting \$265,089 in funding. No projects of concern but one project would be part of the multiple lead entity nearshore assessment project.

Appreciates the opportunity to testify and recommends the board fund all three projects on their list.

Skagit Watershed Council

Ben Perkowski provided testimony for the Skagit Watershed Council. This group has thirteen projects on its list requesting \$3,229,772 in funding. One projects of concern is the last project on their list.

Shirley Solomon had planned to be at the meeting today and encourage the board to fund all the projects on the list but was in a car accident on her way to the meeting so Ben provided the testimony in Shirley's place.

Ben thanked everyone for what he believes is the best process so far. He then reviewed the project list. Ben believes this is one of the best lists brought before the board by the Skagit to date.

Bill would like to see a prioritized list of watersheds within regional plans. This will give the board a tool to present the funds.

Stillaguamish (WRIA 5)

Pat Stevenson, Co-lead Entity Coordinator, provided testimony for the Stillaguamish (WRIA 5) lead entity. This group has nine projects on its list requesting \$2,778,604 in funding. One project was withdrawn from the list.

Pat introduced their new co-coordinator Shawn Edwards.

Pat provided a PowerPoint of the project list and encouraged board to fund all eight projects.

Discussed the ratings by the Review Panel. Since their strategy is Chinook-centric they didn't include the rest of the stock status in their watershed and this caused their rating to be 'good'.

The other issue was habitat features and they rated 'good' due to not prioritizing their limiting factors since they believe all six limiting factors are important.

Wants all projects funded prior to the board funding any of the programmatic activities.

Island County

No testimony for Island County. Staff noted this group has two projects on its list requesting \$384,127 in funding. One of the two projects is part of the multiple lead entity nearshore assessment.

King County (WRIA 9)

Doug Osterman provided testimony for King County (WRIA 9). This group has five projects on its list requesting \$2,581,701 in funding. One project of concern is the last project on their list.

Doug provided two handouts and reviewed the handouts, which provided response to the Review Panel's concerns with the King 9 strategy.

Doug encouraged the board to fund all the projects on the list.

Doug found an error in the calculation of the first increment amounts. Staff will review before tomorrow.

King County (WRIA 8)

Jane Lamensdorf-Bucher provided testimony for King County (WRIA 8). This group has five projects on its list requesting \$2,221,171 in funding. No projects of concern on their list.

Thanked the board and Review Panel since they ranked number one in all three scenarios. Encouraged the board to fund all five projects.

Jean White provided highlights of the five projects.

Snohomish County (WRIA 7)

Martha Neuman introduced Mark Sollitto who provided testimony for Snohomish County (WRIA 7). This group has twelve projects on its list requesting \$3,623,992 in funding. One project has been conditioned and one project withdrawn on the list.

Mark encouraged the board to fund the first six projects on the list at \$2,415,124 in projects. This is a key basin and needs to be strategic in its protection of habitat. Discussed their recovery plan and stressed what a good plan it is. Asked the board to fund the best projects in the key areas, which includes the Snohomish lead entity area.

Pierce County

Roy Huberd, Dave Seabrook, and David Renstrom provided testimony for Pierce County. This group has five projects on its list requesting \$1,035,145 in funding. Two of the five projects on the list have been withdrawn.

Roy let the board know that three project sponsors are in the audience if there are any questions.

Roy then reviewed the top three projects.

Nisqually River Salmon Recovery

Jeanette Dorner and David Troutt provided testimony for Nisqually River lead entity area. This group has four projects on its list requesting \$1,438,316 in funding. No projects of concern or projects were withdrawn from their list.

Appreciated the board and Review Panel's work. They are proud of the work the Nisqually has been doing and it is getting better every year.

Chair Ruckelshaus congratulated the Nisqually group on the good work they do and the collaborative efforts they have used.

Thurston Conservation District

Amy Hatch Winecka provided testimony for Thurston County. This group has five projects on its list requesting \$1,744,073 in funding. One project is part of the multiple lead entity water typing assessment project.

Amy explained that she is the lead entity coordinator for both Thurston and Mason County but will address each lead entity separately.

Amy explained the strategy and list for Thurston County and reasoning behind their list.

Suggested one option, giving the lead entities that ranked lower, funds to improve their strategies. This will give everyone the opportunity to bring their strategies up to excellent.

Concerned with the difference in community involvement rating between Thurston and Mason County, one received an 'excellent' and one 'good' but both used the exact same strategy.

Amy reviewed the projects on the list.

Mason Conservation District

Amy Hatch Winecka also provided testimony for Mason County. This group has four projects on its list requesting \$1,559,026 in funding. No projects of concern are on this list.

Amy reviewed the projects on the list.

Kitsap County

Monica Daniels provided testimony for Kitsap County. This group has eight projects on its list requesting \$2,813,120 in funding. No projects of concern are on this list.

Monica went over their strategy and list. (See handout for comment details.)

Steve Tharinger asked about the number one project on the list: is it an assessment that will lead to projects?

Monica responded that the plan is to have a prioritized list developed from this assessment. The number three project is a direct result of the Bainbridge Island nearshore assessment.

Hood Canal Coordinating Council

Jay Watson, Richard Brocksmith, and Paula Mackrow provided testimony for the Hood Canal Coordinating Council. This group has nine projects on its list requesting \$3,059,608 in funding. No projects of concern are on this list.

Jay reported that this group is okay under any of the scenarios but wants to stress that they 'heard the board.' After the last funding cycle they went back and really scrubbed their strategy.

Top seven projects directly service ESA listed species and are part of their summer chum recovery plan.

The chair asked Jay how they see their strategy morphing into a part of the recovery plan.

Jay responded that they are working with co-managers and that the core of the summer chum plan is the lead entity strategy. They need to do more habitat work and are working closely with local government on salmon recovery issues. Issues will be identified, addressed, and vetted.

Steve Tharinger asked if, when they talk about upland issues, is that the oxygen issue?

Jay responded that it is not really addressing that since they need more scientific research on this issue. The oxygen issue will be referenced in the regional plan.

North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity

Selinda Barkhuis with Byron Rot, Mike Jeldness, Eric Carlson, Paula Mackrow, and Randy Johnson provided testimony for the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity. This group has ten projects on its list requesting \$2,613,200 in funding. This list has one ineligible project, one project of concern, and one project that is part of the multiple lead entity nearshore assessment project.

Selinda reviewed where NOPE is located and project plan. (See handout for details.)

They like all the possible funding scenarios.

Selinda stressed the need to fund the Sadie Susie project. All are important projects and she would like all projects on the list funded. She could not draw a line on the list for what projects not to fund.

Brenda asked if the staff has found whether or not the Sadie Susie project as ineligible. Director Johnson reported that the Manual did consider this an ineligible type project, and informal Attorney General opinion is that the board is correct in ruling this project ineligible.

Quinault Nation

John Sims provided testimony for the Quinault Nation. This group has six projects on its list requesting \$1,230,280 in funding. This list contains one ineligible project and one project of concern.

John reported that Quinault is in the 'C' group but he is still okay with the overall process. The rating did get their attention, they were weak in the community involvement portion of their strategy. He has not had the participation he has wanted and their group is revising the citizen involvement portion of their strategy. He looks forward to the revised strategy.

Discussed the strategy and review panel help and how much help that was for their future strategy. The only endangered species in their watershed is bull trout, but habitat needs to be restored.

Six projects on list with project number three as ineligible. He would like to withdraw the ineligible project from the list. Project five is a very good project located on National Park Service land, and John would like this project funded. He would like to see projects 1, 2 and 5 funded.

Grays Harbor County

Lee Napier provided testimony for Grays Harbor County. This group has nine projects on its list requesting \$1,763,153 in funding. No projects of concern are on this list.

Lee discussed the Review Panel comments concerning their strategy. She does not support any single funding scenario. They will be updating their strategy to incorporate lessons learned from this grant round along with other efforts that they have been involved with over the last year.

On fit to strategy, Lee believes the Review Panel was looking for the highest priority projects in the highest priority areas, and this doesn't work in the Chehalis Basin. They can't meet their goals if they are required to only work in the highest priority areas.

Chair Ruckelshaus thanked Lee for her candor and comments on the Review Panel.

Lee would like the first five projects on the list funded.

Pacific County

Mike Johnson and Don Amend provided testimony for Pacific County. This group has seven projects on its list requesting \$1,985,065 in funding. No projects of concern are on this list.

Don explained they are another group 'C' lead entity. They didn't prioritize the streams as they believe the Willapa Bay and all the streams that run into it are one watershed. Don't have any endangered species. Do need to do more work on prioritization of their project lists.

Mike reviewed their project list.

Chair Ruckelshaus would like to have a meeting with the Pacific County to see if there is a way to help work with the process. Don agrees.

Steve Tharinger suggested Pacific County work with NOPLÉ since they have had this same problem and discussion.

Don feels their list is a good list but it doesn't meet SRFB criteria.

Brenda McMurray suggested having the groups with concern look at the strategy guidance and see what changes they would suggest to help correct this problem.

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Jeff Breckel and Bill Dygert provided testimony for the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board. This group has fourteen projects on its list requesting \$2,767,767 in funding. The last project on this list is a project of concern.

Jeff believes their regional recovery plan should qualify them for the 'A' group, and not the lower 'B' group. He provided an overview of the strategic plan and prioritization of their lead entity list. They feel they have an excellent strategy but only rated good or fair by the Review Panel. Jeff explained how all their projects fit with their strategy. Next round they expect to solicit specific projects that go with their strategy. They felt the strategy evaluation process was informative only and lacked clarity and transparency.

They appreciated the technical advisor peer-to-peer communication and this was very positive for them.

The multiple lead entity proposal that they submitted was supported by the Snake River lead entity and Jeff would like the board to change the definition to include projects that benefit multiple watersheds.

Jeff then went over some of the projects on their project list.

The chair asked Jeff if he had gotten a chance to look at the Review Panel comments prior to the final document and if there were any factual errors in the comments.

Jeff did get a chance to look at the draft information and there aren't any factual errors in the comments but he also doesn't think the comments help with ways to improve their strategy.

SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD

Steve Martin and Mark Wachtel provided testimony for the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board. This group has eleven projects on its list requesting \$890,498 in funding. This list has one ineligible project and two projects of concern.

Steve appreciates that at the start of this cycle knowing the expectations and approximate funding level and their list reflects these expectations.

Steve suggested the board use the scenarios in the second increment of funding.

Discussed concern with comments on strategy. They are one of the few groups that use a combined citizen member and technical team to rank their list.

On stock status, in this area every one is listed and it seems like they should have gotten an excellent rating.

Next grant cycle they would like to know in advance if they will lose points by providing the board with their whole project list.

The board recognized the fact that the larger the geographic area, the more challenging the work and encouraged Steve to stay the course. There will be recovery plans developed with projects prioritized.

Mark Clark asked why they think they got a fair ranking in the community involvement? Steve reported that they didn't reflect the community involvement as they should have.

Larry Cassidy noted that he doesn't know any other area in the state with as much community involvement as the Snake River Region.

Pend Oreille Conservation District

Sandy Dotts and Scott Jungblom provided testimony for Pend Oreille Conservation District. This group has three projects on its list requesting \$924,442 in funding. There are no projects of concern on this list.

Scott agrees with Steve's comments except for the funding amount for their list. Appreciates the new process and are part of the 'A' group. Did have projects drop off their list prior to submitting to the SRFB since they knew they wouldn't meet the board's criteria.

Is okay with any of the scenarios, although leans more toward third scenario since it was developed by the ITF. Fix it loops were very helpful. The strategy guidance worked for them.

Have been able to include their strategy information in subbasin planning efforts and other regional efforts.

Discussed their strategy and the process.

Okanogan County

Julie Piper provided testimony for Okanogan County. This group has eight projects on its list requesting \$1,734,736 in funding. No projects of concern are on the list.

Julie provided an overview of their process and how the strategy is working in their area. They are working to clarify their strategy for the next grant round.

Foster Creek Conservation District

Britt Dudek provided testimony for Foster Creek. This group has one project on its list requesting \$194,500 in funding. The only project on their list is a project of concern.

Britt went over their project to explain the reasons to fund it.

Mark Clark asked if they worked with the NRCS to try to figure out alternate solutions?

Scott responded that they didn't work directly with the NRCS but did use their data.

Larry Cassidy asked about funding under the HCP process.

Scott is not sure they have developed the criteria yet.

Chelan County

Mike Kaputa provided testimony for Chelan County. This group has eight projects on its list requesting \$994,591 in funding. There are no projects of concern on this list.

Mike reported that he didn't get much help from this process and couldn't understand why they rated the way they did. He can't tell from the write-ups how he can improve their strategy from the comments received.

The Review Panel doesn't understand the complexity of what they do in Chelan County and how the other planning efforts interconnect with the project list and strategy.

Mike would be more than happy to help with the redesign of the process to help it to work.

Mike reviewed the project list and said the hardest job the citizen committee had was ranking the list of projects. They are all good projects.

Yakima River Basin Salmon Recovery Board

Richard Visser provided testimony for Yakima County. This group has eighteen projects on its list requesting \$2,987,795 in funding. This list has nine projects of concern and one ineligible project on their list.

Richard provided an overview of the Yakima lead entity process and explained their strategic plan.

Klickitat County

Dave McClure, Sherry Penney, and Carl Dugger provided testimony for Klickitat County. This group has four projects on its list requesting \$1,005,969 in funding. No projects of concern are on this list.

This round came at the right time for their group, as they were able to use the guidelines for strategy development and get help with the Review Panel and technical advisors.

Carl noted how pleased they were with their rating.

Sherry recognized Carl's group in the work they did to get the good ratings. Their citizen review committee work was a good process.

Craig Partridge asked how this group didn't have any problem explaining how the community involvement will work in this area where other lead entities found this difficult.

Sherry responded that the group works as a team.

Mark Clark also asked for insight on how they did their community involvement.

Dave reported that last year they made a lot of improvement in the community interest portion of their strategy. What the board provided for guidance was clear for them.

Tim Smith recalled when the board talked about the Snyder Creek project and concerns about getting it done. It is great to hear that the instream portion has been completed.

Open Public Testimony

John Thompson, Whatcom County, discussed the interlocal agreement that was signed in October to form the "WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board." This board will complete the WRIA 1 recovery plan and will also be the WRIA 1 lead entity. These things work together. In the Puget Sound there are five regions that have twenty-two fish populations. Whatcom County has five of the populations.

Board's Direction To Staff For Evening Homework

Jim Fox gave an update on where the board is on the funding process.

The board discussed the community values portion of the strategy. The Panel was looking for "community support" beyond that of the lead entity committees.

The board decided to postpone funding decisions for the multiple lead entity assessments, status and trend monitoring, regional boards, and small grants until the January meeting. The board does need to decide how much to set aside tomorrow for funding these proposals in January.

Brenda McMurray would like to see what the scenario with filling out the final costs for projects in the first increment would look.

The board discussed possible funding options and reasoning behind each.

Larry Cassidy doesn't want to make a distinction between the A and B group but would fund the C group at a lower level.

Chair Ruckelshaus noted that he believes in the next grant cycle the board should have the projects rated high/medium/low again to give the board the ability to weigh the projects.

Tim Smith discussed his funding option, fund full projects and then go through the project lists and make decisions by looking at ranking of the lead entity and a dollar amount.

The board will need to review a spreadsheet with this option for clarification.

It was suggested to either target percentages or mimic curve in scenario 3.

The board provided the following rules for staff to develop funding proposal:

1. Fund no individual projects falling under the multiple lead entity assessment proposals.
2. Fund no projects of concern.
3. Fully fund all partially funded projects in the first increment.
4. Use groupings for 2nd increment of funding:
 - Group A – 45%
 - Group B – 35%
 - Group C – 20%

Meeting recessed for the evening at 9:41 p.m.

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

December 2 & 3, 2004

Tyee Convention Center
Tumwater, Washington

Day 2

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Ruckelshaus, Chair	Seattle
Larry Cassidy	Vancouver
Steve Tharinger	Clallam County
Brenda McMurray	Yakima
Jim Peters	Olympia
Mark Clark	Director, Conservation Commission
Dick Wallace	Designee, Department of Ecology
Tim Smith	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Craig Partridge	Designee, Department of Natural Resources

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting reconvened at 8:30 a.m. by chair Ruckelshaus.

The chair informed the audience that the board worked into the night in open public meeting and that they discussed everything that was heard during the day. The board talked about the options for funding. He reviewed the 5th Round process and discussed the consequences and the unintended consequences out of the new process.

One of the unintended consequences was that the board put too much into the lead entity list, and this made it difficult for the board to review individual projects since they had the technical advisors look at projects of concern (POC) only. The POC's did have an affect on the overall ranking of the lead entity lists and this was another unintended consequence and needs to be changed next cycle. From the coast, the board heard that they don't have listed fish and this causes problems in their strategies. Other changes were also suggested for the next round. Everyone entered into this process in good faith and will work to refine this process in the next grant cycle. But for this grant cycle, the board will continue with the process as outlined at the beginning of the cycle.

From conversations and testimony yesterday the board gave the staff direction for developing options last evening. The chair reported that staff will present this information and the board will see the results of this direction at the same time as everyone else. Will have around \$26 million in funding for this round and will not be able to fund all the projects submitted.

Public Testimony

Doug Osterman, King 9, asked which table was used in making decisions? Was table V3 used since it was adjusted by narratives?

The chair reported that the board used the table on page 35 of the report (V-4) and also looked at the narratives.

Director Johnson reported that at the meeting last night the staff did get an assignment from the board. Staff is recommending the board set aside \$5 million for planning for the January decisions.

If the board allots about \$5 million for planning purposes, staff's best estimate of the programmatic requests is about \$5.5 million but if the board allots \$5 million they should be in range. The breakout is:

- Multi-Lead Entity assessments \$3 million
- Small grant programs \$1.5 million
- Project specific changes \$0.3 million
- Status and trend \$0.4 million
- Regional implementation \$0.3 million

Totaling about \$5.5 million but staff assumed approximately \$5 million that the board can use for funding these items or put back into the project funding pool.

Staff understanding is that the board would like to have staff key these items up for the January meeting. The items for January's meeting and staff preparation for the meeting includes:

- *Small Grant Programs* – staff will convene a review group to evaluate the proposal(s) and develop a recommendation for the board prior to the January meeting
- *Multi-Lead Entity Assessments* – although they have already had initial review, questions raised during yesterday's presentations will need to be addressed prior to the January meeting.
- *Status and Trend Monitoring* – will ask Bruce Crawford to be responsive to any questions concerning status and trend monitoring.
- *Regional Board Implementation* – a major discussion will be needed on regional implementation costs both for the short-term and the long-term.

The board agreed with the \$5 million in set-aside, although several members believe it may be a little higher than needed. At the end of the meeting will decide the final amount. Use \$26 million as starting point for funding the project proposals.

Larry Cassidy asked what would happen to the \$5 million set-aside if the board doesn't approve funding of any of the programmatic activities.

Staff didn't look at that as another option but that the lists may not support an additional \$5 million; it may take more to get to fund the next level of projects. It would take awhile for staff to run that scenario, and we may need to bring that option to the January meeting.

The chair noted that another option would be to use the funds in the next grant round.

The board will make its final decision on the set-aside amount at the end of the meeting.

Steve Tharinger asked for clarification that NFWF won't lose their match if the board doesn't fund project before the January meeting. The board believed that waiting until January would not lose the funding but staff will check and, if necessary, arrange a conference call meeting for board decision prior to the January meeting.

Craig Partridge asked about projects affecting intensively monitored watersheds: Was this a decision that should be put off until January, or done at this meeting? Dick Wallace suggested having someone go through the list and identify where the projects affecting intensively monitored watersheds fall within the project list.

Dick recognized how the staff worked late into the night. The board adjourned around 10:00 p.m. last evening and that is when staff began its work on the assignment.

Marc Duboiski reviewed the board allocation assignment and discussed the outcomes. (See handouts for details.)

Rules provided by the Board:

1. Statewide allocation \$26 million
2. Fund no projects of concern (POCs)
3. \$8.88 million allocated in the 1st increment
4. \$17.12 million for 2nd increment
Group A – 45% = \$7.7 million for 9 lead entities = \$856 thousand
Group B – 35% = \$5.99 million for 8 lead entities (Snake fully funded in the 1st increment) = \$749 thousand
Group C – 20% = \$3.5 million for 6 lead entities (San Juan funded in the 1st increment and Foster gets \$0 funding with the POC) = \$570 thousand

Rounded to the nearest full project funding level = \$25.55 million

Potential Rules developed by Staff:

5. Additional Criteria

How to get closer to the \$26 million allocation?

Revisited the next projects on the lead entity lists that encompassed:

1. Entire ESUs (Lower Columbia)
2. Multiple WRIAs (Hood Canal, North Olympic, Skagit, Okanogan, and Yakima)

Total amount with additional criteria equals \$26.484 million.

Director Johnson noted a correction on the spreadsheet, the Grays Harbor line should be at project 7, not 6 as it is a multiple WRIA lead entity also.

Discussed the nearshore projects and the funding that goes with those projects. The chair doesn't want to fund any of the nearshore multi-lead entity assessments projects unless the full package is funded and wants to look at how this is all pulled together.

The rest of the board agreed. Dick Wallace thinks there may be some efficiencies gained if all the proposals are pulled into one proposal and one budget is developed.

Jim Fox reported to the board that the group working on the nearshore assessment project will come back to the board with one budget to cover the whole project along with the scientific backing at the January meeting. Would not fund any of the individual nearshore projects today but wait until January. The discussion will include both the projects within the funding level and the projects falling below that funding line.

Brenda McMurray would like the board to look at the group A's to see if there is any way to enhance those lists before enhancing the group C's lists. She would prefer to stay with the board's original assignment criteria and not include the staff's recommended criteria, since three of the top lead entities did not get the next project down but some of the 'C' group did.

Larry Cassidy disagreed with Brenda that there are top lead entities. He doesn't believe there is clear difference between the A, B, or C groupings.

Brenda believes there are some lead entities that have over time proved themselves as leaders and held the Nisqually up as an example. Her comfort with funding the next project on their list would be higher than funding the next project on a list of a lead entity that doesn't have a clear strategy and list of projects fitting that list.

Director Johnson proposed a break for the board and public to review the information that was handed out this morning.

After recognizing the staff work, Chair Ruckelshaus outlined the process for the rest of the meeting. The board members will each provide their input, then have public testimony time, and then the board will have additional discussion and vote on the funding. The chair then discussed the ITF process, although not perfect, progress has been made. Lead entities have been key to this, more responsibility has been delegated to the lead entities for developing strategies and finding projects that fit the strategy. The Review Panel was responsible to help move that process along. The lead entities deserve a lot of credit for the lists they brought forward. Although generally better lists overall, this process may not provide the board with enough flexibility to put money where it is most needed and this still needs to be examined before the next round. Staff also needs to be recognized for the remarkable job they have done.

Dick Wallace echoed the chair's words and voiced his appreciation to the Review Panel, technical advisors, lead entities, and the staff for the hard work in this grant round. This is the accumulation of the work and although not perfect it is getting better.

Craig Partridge also believes we are farther along than we were before. As a member of the ITF, he believes the board changed the process through input from lead entities.

Mark Clark stated the learning through this round has been helpful, and believes it will help strengthen the projects down the road.

Brenda McMurray's perception is that the partnership is building statewide between the board, the lead entities, and the local communities. Although local communities don't know who the board is they do know their lead entities. Wants to encourage lead entities that are

having difficulties with the community outreach to keep working. Believes this has been a very transparent process and the communication has been open with feedback loops.

Steve Tharinger agrees with Brenda concerning the transparency and improved communication. We are getting to recovery of resources and people need to feel good about commenting both good and bad. He is looking forward to seeing the criteria for the next round.

Larry Cassidy echoed the words from Dick in that we are working on the process and although he noted some doubt in the process, commitments have been made to work for a better process in the next round. Brenda's comments on public involvement are also very important.

Jim Peters agrees with what has been said. This board has always tried to be accountable to the entities we receive the money from but also want to keep it open for those receiving the money. The board will need to tweak the process a little more in the next round but we are getting better with each cycle; projects are getting better with more accountability. He can support the proposal that was presented by staff this morning.

Tim Smith has been working with the Washington DC groups and they think the response to ESA is a courtroom issue with the judge deciding. We are implementing a way to recover the fish through the community efforts. He believes we are doing this the right way.

Director Johnson recognized the staff work. Thanked the lead entities for being partners in this process. She also gave a thank-you from the people of the state to the governor for putting thoughtful people on the boards and commissions like SRFB. This is not easy work.

Public Testimony:

David Hoopes, San Juan County, asked to have the multiple lead entity project on the San Juan list to be funded in its own right. This project must not be held until January.

Chair Ruckelshaus stated the board is not precluding funding of the project but needs to make sure the efforts are coordinated. Even though this project was intended to be stand alone the board needs to make sure the coordination is there before funding a project on its own.

Tim Smith asked about provisional funding of the two multi-lead entity projects that would fall within the lead entities funding level.

Discussed the nearshore projects needing coordination with the rest of the multi-lead entity nearshore projects, if this is funded.

Steve Tharinger was concerned with provisionally funding the project especially if the coordination would cause some efficiencies and lower overall costs.

The chair wants to see how this all fits together before funding any of the nearshore projects.

David Troutt, chair Nisqually River Council, appreciates the work of staff and the board. In general supportive of funding process and the two increments of funding strategy; this worked well for the Nisqually group. Thurston County has some issues and hopefully the board will look at ways to provide more funding to this lead entity.

John Thompson, Whatcom County, understands the challenge the board has in being equitable in process. Whatcom is in the B group and in the second increment of funding they are below average within this allocation. John made a plea for funding the second project on their list. Although there are probably some good programmatic projects to fund, believes the board should fund lead entities first.

Don Ammon and Mike Johnson, Pacific County, presented their plea for funding of project four on their list. Need to keep their area pristine where possible and this is an assessment that will help with the strategic plan for future projects.

Doug Osterman, WRIA 9, with LEAG hat on, thanked the board for this grant round process. There are some rough edges but willing to work to iron out the rough edges.

As WRIA 9 representative he believes staff work from last night had an error. The fourth project on their list is willing to take partial funding and would agree to \$100,000 for design work only. Doug believes both river miles and shoreline miles are off in calculations and that may have brought their funding amount up. The fifth project on the list was a POC that they should have pulled which would have moved them up into the 'A' group. Doug also noted that WRIA 9 is a multiple WRIA lead entity as it includes WRIA 9, parts of WRIA 8, and parts of WRIs 10 and 15.

The chair noted that the board will take Doug's suggestions into account but can't start making partial funding decisions today or this will be a never-ending process.

Director Johnson noted that Snohomish County made the same plea (by written comment) for partial funding as made by King 9.

Amy Hatch-Wineka, Thurston County, realizes the size of the 3rd ranked project is problematic in the amount of funding request. She suggested not funding the 3rd project on the list but funding the fifth project on their list instead.

Steve Martin, Snake River, appreciates the process and believes the process shows predictability, equitability, and openness and he fully supports the proposal.

The chair summarized some of the discussions from yesterday and this morning. He suggested including the following projects in the funding decision today – Second project on Whatcom County's list, including the fourth project on the Pacific County list, and the fifth project on Thurston County's list. He believes funding of each of these projects has rationale and, as these are all fairly low cost projects, wouldn't increase the total amount of funding by that much.

Larry Cassidy and Brenda McMurray are both in agreement with adding the three projects. Steve Tharinger is in support of the Pacific and Thurston County projects, some concern with the Whatcom project but is okay with adding it. He is concerned with some of the upper tier

lead entities not receiving the higher increment of funding and would like to also add the Nisqually project.

Staff noted, with the four additions, the total amount of today's proposal is \$26.752 million. This reduces somewhat the amount for efforts being brought forward in January but there should still be enough funding for the January meeting decisions.

Chair Ruckelshaus entertained a motion: Take board's guidance to staff plus staff recommended criteria, and four added projects for funding. Larry Cassidy **MOVED** to fund the proposed projects per the spreadsheets presented. Steve Tharinger **SECONDED**. Board **APPROVED**.

REPORTS FROM PARTNERS

Tim Smith reported that Marnie Tyler, Salmon Recovery Coordinator, will be out for maternity leave and Brian Walsh will be acting as the Salmon Recovery Coordinator while Marnie is out.

Dick Wallace updated the board on watershed planning efforts. Six watershed plans are through the full two-step process. This has been year of hard work with lots of cross over between this process and the lead entity process.

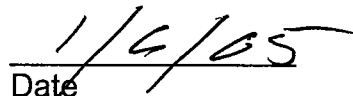
Larry Cassidy reported that twenty-six subbasin plans out of the total sixty-two will be approved in the next two weeks. All work in Washington has been done by basically the same groups who have been working with both the 2514 and the 2496 processes. Recovery has not been done like this in any other state.

Chair Ruckelshaus discussed the shared strategy and the conference to be held in January. He thanked everyone for working through this process and noted that it will improve in the next grant cycle.

The December 2004 meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

ATTEST SRFB APPROVAL:


William Ruckelshaus, Chair


Date

Future Meetings: January 6, 2005 – SeaTac
 February 10 & 11, 2005 – Olympia
 April 14 & 15, 2005 – Olympia
 May 12, 2005 – TBD
 May 25, 2005 – TBD
 June 9 & 10, 2005 – TBD
 July 18 & 19, 2005 – Olympia
 October 27 & 28, 2005 – TBD
 December 1 & 2, 2005 - TBD